

Date: March 29, 2004

To: Neighborhood Council Leaders

From: Greg Nelson, General Manager, Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment

Subject: NEWEST NEIGHBORHOOD CAFÉ AIR TIMES. COOL IDEAS #2, #3, AND #4 TO INCREASE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.

NEWEST NEIGHBORHOOD CAFÉ AIR TIMES

April 4th - 10 am & 7:30 pm "A Great Neighborhood Improvement Project: Grand Avenue"

April 5th - 8:30 am "The Making of the Mayoral Debates"

April 7th - 8:30 am "L.A. SHARES and the Equipping of Neighborhood Council Offices"

April 11th - 10 am & 7:30 pm "A Candid Interview with the General Manager of the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment"

April 12th - 8:30 am "Why We Love Our Senior Lead Officers"

April 14th - 8:30 am "Creative Ways to Involve People and Youth Outreach"

April 18th - 10 am & 7:30 pm "Neighborhood Councils 101" (Repeat)

April 19th - 8:30 am "Crime Prevention" (Repeat)

April 21st - 8:30 am "Emergency Preparedness" (Repeat)

April 25th - 10 am and 7:30 pm "Graffiti Prevention" (Repeat)

April 26th - 8:30 am "Neighborhood Improvement Projects" (Repeat)

April 28th - 8:30 am "Spring St. & Main St. Revitalization" (Repeat)

The regular dates and times are: Mondays (10 am & 7:30 pm), Tuesdays (8:30 am), and Thursdays (8:30 am).

COOL IDEAS #2 AND #3 TO INCREASE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Adopt-a-Precinct. There are about 16 city voting precincts in an average Neighborhood Council. Find a person to be the Precinct Captain for each. Let them find helpers. Make it the captain's goal to increase the number of people in their precinct who are registered to vote, and who actually vote. Over a period of time, make it the goal to visit every household in the precinct. Bring voter registration cards. At election time, bring absentee voter applications.

Everytime, bring information about your Neighborhood Council. Templates for a colorful brochure are available on our website. The information you will need is available online and through the County Registrar of Voters. Find out how many people are registered and how many vote now, and measure your success against that number. Reward the most productive Precinct Captains and their crews. Meet new friends.

Make Election Day a Fun Community Event. There was a time when going to the polling place in this country was a festive event. Neighborhood Council elections could be that way again. Make an event out of it. Inventory the talent that is in your Neighborhood Council area. Yes, even find the mimes. Make it fun. Give people an additional reason to come and vote.

Conduct a Public Opinion Survey on Election Day. Do what the Mar Vista Community Council just did and prepare a public opinion survey for voters to fill out before they leave. The information will help guide the Neighborhood Council and the elected officials in decision-making. People love being asked for their opinions.

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